

California Regional Water Quality Control Board

San Diego Region

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March 22, 2005

In reply refer to: WPN:10-6000.05:haasj

TO: Aliso Creek Watershed Stakeholders

SUBJECT:

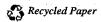
Public Comment Period for Rescission of Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R9-1999-0211 (CAO) for the County of Orange, Orange County Flood Control District and City of Laguna Niguel (Co-permittees). This CAO was issued in December 1999 for discharges of waste with high fecal coliform bacteria from municipal storm drain outfall "J03P02" into Sulphur Creek, a tributary to Aliso Creek.

DISCUSSION: The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (SDRWQCB), is accepting written comments until April 22, 2005 regarding a request from the Co-permittees to rescind the CAO. The Order had required the Co-permittees to develop a work plan with a time schedule to cleanup the wastes discharged from the J03P02 storm drain, abate the effects of the discharged waste, implement a weekly monitoring program, and to submit quarterly progress reports. A copy of the Co-permittees' letter requesting the rescission is posted on our web site at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/ and may also be obtained from the contact person listed below.

Subsequent to the issuance of the CAO, the Co-Permittees have established new programs to reduce bacteria and other pollutants in the J03P02 discharge. These programs were prepared in accordance with the Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Program (JURMP) and other requirements of Order No. R9-2002-001 (NPDES No. CAS0108740), the third-term permit for municipal separate storm sewer systems in southern Orange County. The jurisdictional programs are described in the Co-Permittees' Local Implementation Plans (LIP). The County's LIP is posted at http://www.ocwatersheds.com/StormWater/documents_damp.asp. To review the LIP for the City of Laguna Niguel, please contact the City's Public Works Department at 949-362-4337.

In addition to the jurisdictional programs, Order No. R9-2002-001 requires the Co-Permittees to participate in the development of an Aliso Creek Watershed Urban Runoff Management Plan (WURMP) that implements a program of short and long-term activities to address the bacteria problem in the Aliso Creek watershed. These activities include any additional water quality monitoring that is necessary to assess the effectiveness of the WURMP. Order No. R9-2002-001 further requires the Co-Permittees to submit annual reports on their JURMP and WURMP activities. These

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annual reports include identical information regarding management activities as is submitted by the Co-Permittees in response to the CAO.

No public hearing is scheduled on this matter. After the close of the written comment period on April 22, 2005, the Executive Officer will take action on this request pursuant to California Water Code section 13223. The heading portion of this letter includes a Regional Board code number noted after "In reply refer to:" In order to assist us in the processing of your correspondence please include this code number in the heading or subject line portion of all correspondence pertaining to this matter.

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JOHN H. ROBERTUS Executive Officer

JHR:rwm:ich